

# The Romulus News

DECEMBER 19, 1997 – JANUARY 8, 1998

"the little paper"

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 11

## Timely Tidbits ...

### See You Next Year!

The friendly staff of "the little paper" will be taking an extra week off before publishing our next issue, which will appear on January 9, 1998 – not January 2. We hope that each and every one of you has the happiest of holiday seasons, and look forward to seeing and serving all of you next year.

### Youths To Be Locked Up for New Year's Eve

With its dual emphasis on safety and fun, the first annual "Drug-free New Year's Eve Lock-in" will be the place to be for youths ages 13-18.

The idea for the all-night party originated with the Romulus Pastors' Fellowship, an organization with membership from eight local churches. Since August, the group has contacted and worked with people from our city and schools, churches, civic organizations, and local businesses to orchestrate an evening of diverse activities sure to appeal to everyone.

Among the event's attractions will be:

- two live bands (Goodfellas and Shaker),
- additional music by live DJ John Racé and Video House Party,
- a performance of excerpts from the Detroit-based musical, *Cracks in the Backstreet*,
- a demonstration by Full Force (a Tae Kwon Do group),
- dodgeball and three-on-three basketball tournaments,
- volleyball,
- a variety of games and contests put on by Dustin "Stunt-boy" Gardner, the evening's emcee/"game-master," and
- over 60 door prizes, valued at over \$1,000.

Party-goers will be admitted at Romulus High School anytime between 10 p.m. and 1 a.m., after which doors will be locked until 6 a.m. Admission is \$7 with a can of food or \$8 without.

Donations for the event are still being solicited. For more information, please contact Chad Moore at 313-467-7420. □

## Chamber Names Hopson "Person of the Year"

By Kristi Stephens

Ron Hopson, area manager of Franklin Life Insurance Company and Franklin Financial Services for the past quarter of a century, has been chosen by the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce as its 18th annual Person of the Year. The selection was made by the Chamber's Person of the Year Committee, composed of Chamber president Joel Carr and directors Mark Lewkowicz, Kristine Detroyer, Dave Paul, and Gil White, Jr.

Hopson – a Chamber cofounder and charter member of its Board of Directors – has a long history of working for the betterment of his community, according to Romulus City Councilman Mike Prybyla, who nominated him for the honor. Besides being instrumental in Romulus' evolution from township to city by helping to initiate the Romulus Charter Commission and, later, working for voter approval of the Charter, he:

- is a former Jaycee;
- served as a bell-ringer for the Salvation Army;
- helped to form and coach the Romulus Flyers; and
- served 2½ terms as president of the Romulus Rotary (of which he has been a member since 1960).

His unwavering pride in and concern for his hometown has repeatedly led him to speak out on major issues affecting Romulus over the years, and his especial interest in local youth has resulted in invitations to speak at Romulus High School on many occasions.

Hopson, who came to Romulus at the age of four, was raised on a farm on



Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce members (from left) Mark Lewkowicz, Karan Johnson, Kristine Detroyer, and Joel Carr with the Chamber's 18th annual Person of the Year, Ron Hopson (far right).

Harrison Road. He attended Romulus schools, where he was active in football as a junior and senior, then went on to the University of Michigan for four years. Following a two-year stint (1953-1955) in the U.S. Army, during which he was stationed in Colorado Springs, Hopson returned to Romulus and worked as a design engineer for the Ford Motor Company from 1957-1958. In 1958, he and co-owner Bruce Barton built the Barhop Restaurant on Huron River Drive (now Daly's Drive-in), and eventually opened three other Barhop locations (Ypsilanti, Riverview, and Belleville).

He and his wife, Ruth Ann, have two

sons (Brent Hopson and Bert Smith) and two daughters (Sue Wright and Shawn Samanak).

An awards banquet honoring Hopson will be held at the Royce Hotel (Romulus) on Friday, March 20. Cocktail hour (6:30 p.m.) will precede dinner (7:30 p.m.). Tickets – available from the office of the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce (9191 Wickham, Romulus) for a donation of \$30 per person – must be purchased no later than Wednesday, March 11.

For more information, call the Chamber's executive secretary, Karan Johnson, at 326-4290. □

## 1998 Safe & Sober Campaign Kicks Off

The Romulus Police Department has purchased a pair of "Fatal Vision Goggles" which, when worn, will simulate the perception of a person with a blood-alcohol level of .15 and higher. The goggles are a training tool that is part of the first wave of the 1998 Safe and Sober Program currently underway throughout the State of Michigan.

The Safe and Sober Program, funded by the Office of Highway Safety Planning, provides departments with funding to provide educational information for the motoring public and place additional patrols on the street to look for those drivers who didn't heed the warnings.

The first wave of enforcement, set for December 22 through January 10, has been designed to identify and apprehend intoxicated drivers. Motorists who drink and drive in Romulus during this time are likely to pay a steep price when local police step up enforcement of Michigan's drunk-driving laws, according to Romulus Police Department Executive Lieutenant Eric Painter.

On Monday, January 22, every Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb County department that is participating in the '98 grant will have at least one unit on the streets, looking for drunk drivers. Besides Romulus, those departments include the Wayne Police Department,

Canton Police Department, Van Buren Police Department, Huron Township Police Department, and Sumpter Police Department.

"In the past decade, deaths in alcohol-related crashes in Michigan have declined 45%," Painter said. "That's quite an achievement; but the bad news is that, last year alone, there were nearly 60,000 arrests for impaired driving. It's still a major problem."

"Drinking and driving is double jeopardy," Painter continued. "Not only does alcohol impair judgment, but it actually creates the illusion of being more powerful and in control."

*continued on page 12*



## The Editor's Opinion

### Personal Attacks Are Counterproductive

By Kristi Stephens

After watching the December 8 meeting of the Romulus City Council, I find myself hoping that our newly elected officials haven't already lost sight of their promise to work together.

Maybe the problem is that we don't have reasonable expectations about what "working together" entails.

It seems clear to me that even the most sincere efforts at teamwork won't always end in unanimity. To expect that they will is unreasonable.

What is most important, instead, is a willingness to consider and decide each issue on its individual merits *alone*. That means approaching ideas with an open mind; listening carefully and respectfully to the thoughts of others; voicing your own thoughts, without being rude, on matters relevant to the idea under consideration; and then making your decision as honestly and objectively as possible. Viewing problems in the light of "us versus them" – with innuendo about "dictatorships" and "who's having coffee with whom" – is not only irrelevant, it's counterproductive. Each time the flames of personal dislike are fanned, it becomes more difficult to put animosity aside and work together in the future.

If you believe wholeheartedly in something, it can be hard not to get frustrated, even angry, when other people don't agree with you. But there's rarely a need to ascribe sinister, ulterior motives to those who disagree; their beliefs are usually just as sincere as yours. As hard as it may be for you to believe or understand, they're probably doing what they truly think is best.

Surely Councilman Bill Crova was doing what he thought best when he made a motion to create an Appointment Advisory Committee and, later, nominated Councilmen Randy Gear, Mike Prybyla, and LeRoy Burcroff to make up that committee. Ironically, by asking Council to officially create and sanction a body that had previously operated under a dubious precedence – as well as spell out, in no uncertain terms, the exact method by which its members will be chosen – Crova was only trying to avoid future incidents like the one which arose as a direct consequence of his motion.

Had it been his intention to load the committee with Mayor Bill Oakley's "cronies," as some Councilmen and audience members implied, Crova probably could have done so. Instead – or so it seemed to me – he suggested a membership that would represent a variety of viewpoints. Indeed, Council-

man Don Morris, who voted in favor of Crova's ultimately successful motions, pointed out that such a "balance" was exactly what he hoped to achieve. There was no need to speculate, as Councilman Bill Wadsworth did, that Crova's inclusion of Gear was an attempt to "save face"; people *have* been known to bow to altruistic impulses now and then, and try to do what is right instead of what is personally expedient.

The same could be said of the majority's decision to accept the all-or-nothing terms of a pay increase recommended by the City's Officers Compensation Commission. It seemed obvious to me that freshmen Councilmen Burcroff and Morris joined their colleagues, Councilmen Crova and Prybyla, not because of greed, as some implied, but because they realized that the hike was:

- long overdue, since Romulus' elected officials are among the lowest paid in Wayne County;
- necessary to reestablish a pay hierarchy in which the salary for the City's chief administrative office is commensurate with the office's responsibilities; and
- essential if Romulus is to compete with surrounding communities in attracting qualified people who can successfully lead us into a future of continued growth.

Finding yourself in the minority after years of being part of the majority can be an uncomfortable experience, but you have to be realistic enough to accept the fact that you're not always going to get your way. That doesn't mean that you shouldn't keep fighting for what you believe – "Never say die!" is my motto – but you should try to stick to the issue at hand when you argue your case. If we treat people with respect even when we disagree with them, perhaps they'll be more apt to consider other suggestions we may make in the future. It's a lesson that all must learn if the next four years are to be productive ones for the residents and business people of the City of Romulus.

Parents and children, husbands and wives, and even the most like-minded of friends disagree with each other all the time, yet manage to put their singular differences aside and work together on common goals in pursuit of the greater good in their overall relationship. During this season traditionally associated with peace, brotherhood, and resolve for a better future, I hope that everyone will join me in my vow to work harder at putting my differences with others aside and pursuing the greater good for Romulus. □

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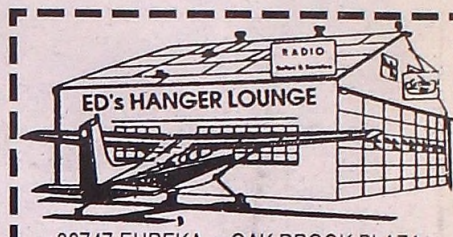
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## Letter to the Editor

### Children's Hospital Thanks Johnstons

*Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.*

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

To the Editor:

Christmas came early to C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, and the staff at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital found out that Santa and Mrs. Claus live in Romulus.

Kevin and Robin Johnston have a long history of donating to the patients at Mott. This year, they have helped make Christmas very special for our patients by printing a holiday greeting

card featuring the patients' Christmas ornaments.

In spite of the fact that Mott is not a paying customer, and that Johnston Lithograph, Inc., is donating its services, Kevin and the other employees have been as helpful – and their work has been as excellent – as if Mott was their largest account.

The patients, families, and staff of C.S. Mott Children's Hospital are extremely grateful for the Johnstons' support. The Romulus community is fortunate to have a business that offers both excellent work and support of nonprofit organizations.

Sincerely,  
Karen Foulke  
Special Projects Coordinator  
C.S. Mott Children's Hospital □

### Barth Students Make Angels



Students in Barth Elementary teacher Becky Bales' (right) classroom combined math, language arts, and science objectives into a lesson on how to craft angels as gifts for their families. Joining in the fun were Board of Education member Betty Lenossi; Bales' mother, Carole; and her good friend, Lorraine Wilkerson.

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## Bennett Seeks Increase in State's Personal Exemption

State Senator Loren Bennett (R-Canton Township) recently announced legislation that would raise our state income tax's personal exemption allowance to equal what it would have been had it been indexed to the rate of inflation for the past 30 years.

"When the personal exemption was set in 1967, it was not indexed to the rate of inflation," Bennett explained. "Had it been, the exemption would be approximately \$5,700 for the 1998 tax year. That's a big difference from the \$2,800 exemption we will actually receive in 1998."

Bennett's bill would increase the exemption by \$200 annually over approximately the next 15 years. The \$200 raises would be in addition to annual inflation-based exemption increases.

"Taxpayers are getting shorted under the current system," Bennett said. "While it may appear that the personal exemption has increased, it has actually been getting smaller because inflation was not taken into account for the past three decades."

"Taxpayers should be getting a much larger personal exemption than they have been," he stated. "It's time we made that happen."

Senate Bill 836 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

\* \* \*

### Bennett Proposes Solution to Airport Problems

State Senator Loren Bennett recently introduced Senate Bill 832 which addresses problems associated with living near a large metropolitan airport.

"Wayne County could do a much better job addressing the problems of the communities surrounding Metro Airport," Bennett said. "Since the County will not act to service the people in affected areas, I feel it's only appropriate to empower the people to help themselves."

Currently, a 30% tax is collected on parking at Metro Airport. This tax was intended to help Wayne County pay off bonds associated with the Wayne County bailout in the 1980s. However, the County has been putting the money into its general fund, Bennett said.

Legislation recently introduced stipulates that the money collected from this tax – currently estimated at \$12 million – be placed into a special fund to be used to address and finance solutions to problems such as noise, loss of property-tax revenues, and environmental concerns.

The money would be administered by a board made up of communities affected by airports in Wayne and Washtenaw counties.

Bennett said that, judging from the many complaints from people who live

around the Airport, the County definitely is not using the money to help these areas.

"It is ridiculous that Wayne County government gets the money with no strings attached when it could be used to help communities around Metro Airport," Bennett said.

"It is important to remember that this is *not* a new tax. It is merely redirecting who gets to spend the money currently collected. I feel the affected communities can do a better job than the County; therefore, the communities should get the money."

The bill has been referred to committee.

\* \* \*

### Legislature Approves Utility Imposter Bill; Governor's Signature Awaited

The House of Representatives has unanimously approved a bill which makes it a felony to impersonate a utility worker while attempting to commit a crime, Bennett has reported.

The House approved Senate Bill 6, sponsored by Bennett, 106-0. The Senate also approved the bill, concurring with the House changes, 34-0.

"Criminals who violate the trust of people in their own homes will now face an additional felony charge," Bennett said. "That's great news, especially for senior citizens who are often the targets of such criminals."

Under the bill, criminals using this type of deception will face up to two years in prison without chance of probation or parole and/or a \$1,000 fine.

Jim Taylor, director of corporate security for Detroit Edison, was appreciative of Bennett's efforts to pass the bill.

"Now, under the law, preying on the elderly and other unsuspecting victims under the guise of pretending to be one of our employees will be a felony in itself," Taylor said. "We applaud Senator Bennett's efforts to help protect our customers from crime." □

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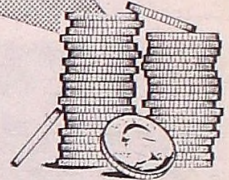
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## Expect Customer Consideration, Quality at Metro Servicenter

By Rikki Strobos

"Quality and customer consideration are our top priority at Metro Servicenter – BP," said President/CEO Rita Combs-Sterrett, a former District Marketing and Sales Manager for DuPont Pharmaceuticals (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia) who has been in the service-center business for two decades.

According to Combs-Sterrett, her establishment – which offers fuel, towing, mechanical repair, storage, vending, and truck leasing services (among others) – is unique in one respect. "We're one of only a few full-service stations located inside a major airport," she explained. "In fact, it's believed that we were the very first when we opened back in 1978."

Combs-Sterrett is especially proud of her courteous, knowledgeable staff: "Customers frequently send me complimentary letters about my staff mem-



Rita Combs-Sterrett, President/CEO of Metro Servicenter – BP, was recently honored as Business Woman of the Year for 1996.

bers, especially my manager, Leon Moon, who has 42 years of experience under his belt," she said.

Like many others, Combs-Sterrett is excited about this area's future. "I had a vision – a dream – and realized that new opportunities would become available in the area surrounding the Airport," she said. "With all the plans for development finally coming to fruition, that dream has become a reality."

Born and reared in Detroit, the eldest of George and Frances Suttles' five children, Combs-Sterrett attended public schools before going on to Michigan Technological University and, later, graduating from the Detroit Institute of Technology and Wayne State University. The recently widowed mother of two adult daughters currently serves on several boards, and was noted in the *Who's Who of Executives* for 1997. An active member of the American Business Women's Association, she received that organization's Business Woman of the Year award in 1996.

Metro Servicenter, Inc. – BP, located in Detroit Metro Airport (Bldg. 531), is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For information, call 942-4600. □

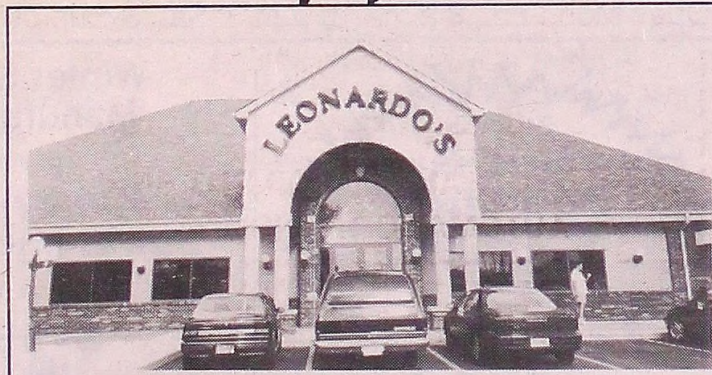


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## Some Tips to Treating Yourself to a Healthier Holiday Season

By the time New Year's weight-loss resolutions roll off the tongue of the average American, that person could have gained anywhere from seven to 12 pounds over the holiday season. Florine Mark of Weight Watchers offers the following tips aimed at avoiding unwanted, extra pounds.

- **Eat Less of the Best** – Remember: "moderation," not "deprivation," is the key. Eat a variety of foods, in the recommended amounts, from all the food groups. If you want to indulge in a food that isn't necessarily nutritious, make sure it's your absolutely favorite kind, and enjoy it in smaller portions.
- **Food Is Not the "Reason for the Season"** – Taking the time to express gratitude, affection, and best wishes are all deeply rewarding activities that ultimately put you in the true spirit of the season. Don't make food the highlight of a gathering.
- **Try, "No, I Think I'll Pass"** – Most of the time, a simple, "No, thank you," and a sincere smile will do the trick when you're offered food that you really don't want. Remember your commitment to a healthier you.
- **Whoa! Don't Overdo It** – Plan ahead what you're going to serve and strictly stick to it. Keep healthier alternatives on hand. Your guests will appreciate the deviation from the standard fare and you'll be thankful that you won't have leftover, empty-calorie, hip-sticking foods to deal with once they've gone home.
- **Mocktails, Not Cocktails** – We are more than aware of the dangers of consuming too much alcohol, but an added side effect is that it stimulates your appetite and contains empty calories. Instead, sip on Perrier, seltzer water with a twist, or sugar-free soft drinks.
- **Eat Before You Meet** – Always eat something filling and nutritious before going to a party. That way, once you get there, you won't be tempted to stuff yourself with food that might be higher in fat, calories, and sodium.
- **Learn the "De-stress Boogie"** – It may be hard to believe, but the best way to de-stress is through exercise. If you can get 10-minute spurts in throughout the day, especially on hectic days, you'll feel emotionally and physically recharged.
- **Keep It In Perspective** – Celebrations happen all year round, but we have a tendency to blow this time of year out of proportion food-wise. Even if you give yourself permission to eat everything in sight on these four or five special days, remember that it's what you do with the other 360 days that ultimately matters!
- **Play "Beat the Clock"** – When confronted with an immediate challenge (such as deep-fried hors d'oeuvres, leftover Halloween candy, or creme-filled cookies), convince yourself that you'll give yourself at least 10 minutes before indulging in it. Chances are, before the time elapses, you will have forgotten about the temptation.

### Pumpkin-Ricotta Cheesecake (makes 5 servings)

12 (2 1/2" square) honey graham crackers, made into crumbs  
1 1/3 cups instant nonfat dry milk powder  
3/4 cup part-skim ricotta cheese  
3/4 cup egg substitute  
2/3 cup low-fat (1%) cottage cheese  
1/2 cup canned pumpkin  
1/4 cup firmly packed light brown sugar  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 300° F. Spray an 8" springform pan with nonstick cooking spray. Sprinkle bottom of pan evenly with graham cracker crumbs.

In a blender or food processor, purée remaining ingredients until smooth; pour mixture into prepared pan.

Bake 50-60 minutes, or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Cool completely on rack. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Each serving provides: 1/8 Fruit/Veg-etable, 1 1/2 Protein/Milk, 1/2 Bread, 25 Bonus Calories.

Per serving: 3 Points

### Maple-Stuffed Sweet Potato (makes 8 servings)

8 4-ounce sweet potatoes  
6 tablespoons plain nonfat yogurt  
2 tablespoons reduced-calorie pancake syrup (60 calories per fluid ounce)  
2 tablespoons orange juice  
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard  
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg

Preheat oven to 375° F. Bake potatoes 50-60 minutes, or until easily pierced with a fork. Remove from oven and cool slightly.

Slice potatoes in half lengthwise. Scoop out pulp, leaving 1/2" thick shell. Place shells in 13x9" baking pan and transfer pulp to a food processor or blender.

Add remaining ingredients to food processor; process until smooth. Spoon mixture evenly into shells. Return to oven and bake 5-10 minutes longer, until heated.

Each serving provides: 2 Points.

Recipe source: *Weight Watchers Complete Cookbook & Program Basics*, 1994 □

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## LEAPFROG

Write the word(s) that fits definition #1 into the correspondingly numbered box. Next, drop one letter and anagram (rearrange) the remaining letters to find the answer to definition #2. Perform the same drop-a-letter/anagram procedure on word #2 to arrive at the answer to definition #3. Place the first dropped letter in the space to the left of answer #1 and the second in the space to the right of answer #3. Repeat this process on each line of the puzzle. If the puzzle is done correctly, the dropped letters, read from top to bottom, will spell out our New Year's wishes for you and your family.

	1	2	3	
	4	5	6	
	7	8	9	
	10	11	12	
	13	14	15	
	16	17	18	
	19	20	21	
	22	23	24	
	25	26	27	
	28	29	30	

### DEFINITIONS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. These come in clay, stool, and carrier varieties            | 16. Leave desolate, especially by death                      |
| 2. Thinks; believes  | 17. Dam builder  |
| 3. Sound   | 18. Courageous; valiant                                      |
| 4. Romulus City Councilman Burcroff                            | 19. Lowest point   |
| 5. Be dependent for support or help                            | 20. Skin; peel   |
| 6. Soap ingredient   | 21. Cacophony  |
| 7. Scads; heaps  | 22. Hearken; heed  |
| 8. Distributes sparingly                                       | 23. Beer mug   |
| 9. Winter vehicle  | 24. Tolkien's treelike creatures                             |
| 10. Maiden   | 25. Cows, steers, bulls, oxen, and calves                    |
| 11. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and supper                       | 26. Piece of metal or rubber used on shoe soles for traction |
| 12. Ineffectual; weak  | 27. Delicate, openwork material made from thread             |
| 13. Globe; orb   | 28. Practices which promote or preserve health               |
| 14. Overindulgence in an activity such as spending or drinking | 29. Observing; watching                                      |
| 15. Dry and withered   | 30. Magic lamp's inhabitant                                  |

For solution, see page 12

## YOU'LL FIND IT IN "RENEWAL"

How many words of four or more letters can you form using only the letters in RENEWAL? A letter can be used more than once only if it appears more than once. Proper nouns, obsolete and archaic words, poetic words, slang, hyphenated words, contractions, and foreign words are not permitted.

Our list of 30 words can be found on page 12

## Christmas Joy

By Mary E. Clark (1993)

It was December 24. "Christmas Eve is here," I said aloud.

Just in time, the tree had been trimmed, the house decorated, cookies baked, shopping done, gifts wrapped, and preparation of food started. I was pleased, for now, when the children and grandchildren arrived, there would be no work to do. We could relax, enjoy visiting, and catch up on what had been happening in their lives since the last gettogether.

The adrenaline was flowing at top speed as I looked forward to the evening and Christmas Day with my family. The house would be filled with the happy laughter of children again. I could hardly wait.

I decided to take a last look around to see if I had left anything undone. Everything seemed to be taken care of, so I walked to the window to look and see if snow was still falling. It was. Big, fluffy flakes were creating a winter wonderland. This would be the perfect snow for sleigh riding.

I glanced down to check on the Christmas cactus plants. They had been budded for days, but were now open into full blossoms of delicate beauty and color.

Standing beside the cactus plants was a little tree-shaped plant. It had no buds. It looked like an evergreen; a pine, I thought. But there were no pinecones. It was just green.

I thought it looked sad there next to the gorgeous colors that the cactus plants were displaying. It reminded me of the story of the Ugly Duckling. I felt so sorry for that little, green plant – but what could I do?

"Well," I whispered. "I will move

you. I'll find a place somewhere else in the house."

I moved away to look for a good place for the little fellow, but was distracted by horns honking and children yelling to let me know they were home. I forgot all about the little plant.

We had a wonderful Christmas Eve. It was just a great time. The grandchildren hung their stockings just as their parents had done when they were children. My heart felt like it would burst with happiness. Ours was such a big family now, and the looks of love that passed from one to another is a treasured memory for me. How wonderful it was to have them home again. I went to sleep that night, warmed by radiating family love.

Early Christmas morning, I arose before anyone else. Again, I looked to see if it was still snowing. Suddenly I remembered the little, green plant. I looked toward it and I could not believe my eyes. There was color. It was not just green anymore. I looked closer. There really was color. There was red, white, red and white stripes, and red and green stripes. I could not believe this was real. I thought I must still be asleep and dreaming.

It was no dream. The little, green plant stood proud in stately splendor. Well, why not? It was beautifully arrayed for the holiday and no longer embarrassed and sad.

Years have passed and I still don't know who hung the peppermint candy canes on the little plant. But I don't question it anymore. After all, Christmas is a season of miracles and magic, and no one – no, not even a little, green tree – should feel anything less than joy on Christmas morning. □

## HOSA Students Make a Difference



Health Occupations students from Romulus High School join their teacher, Evelyn Hopewell (far left), to display bags of holiday gifts that they purchased for the senior citizens at Belle Woods Care Center in Belleville, Michigan.





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Holiday  
Wishes*

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much laughter, warmth,  
and good fortune  
for all those you hold dear.  
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make our year  
truly worth celebrating.  
Happy holidays  
to all our  
friends and neighbors.

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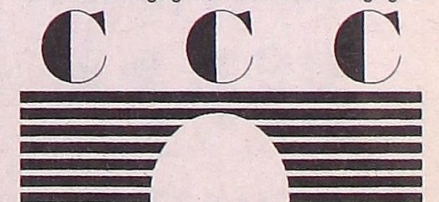
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**Have  
Yourself  
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Little  
Christmas**

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our year with your visits.

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**Hope  
It's A  
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This past year has been great fun, thanks to you!

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We cherish this time as we  
recall with thanks your valued  
business. A happy and melodious  
Christmas to all!

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**Sweet  
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Our recipe for  
a perfect holiday season  
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Thanks to all!

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the  
Halls**

May it be a beautiful  
season for all our  
friends and neighbors.  
Thank you for stopping by!

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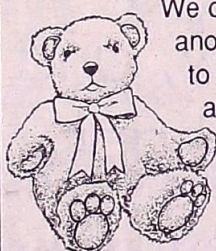
**SMILE...  
It's  
Christmas!**



To all our valued patients  
go our bright wishes  
and gratitude.

**RHONDA J. HENNESSY, D.D.S.,  
ASSOCIATES & STAFF**  
37211 Goddard • Romulus  
941-0343

**IT'S CHRISTMAS!**



We can't bear to wait  
another minute  
to wish you  
a merry Christmas  
and to express  
our thanks.

**Kozy Korner  
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**SEASON'S GREETINGS**

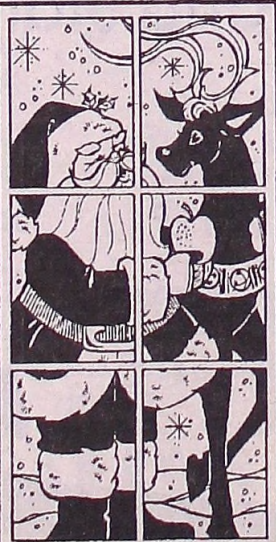
We're going out on a limb to say,  
"happy holiday and many thanks"  
to our community.  
We feel truly  
blessed to have  
your loyal  
support.

The staff of  
**The Romulus News**  
Kristi, Evelyn, Mary,  
Lisa, Ann, and Joyce

**SEASON'S  
GREETINGS**

Hope your holiday is filled  
with many wonderful surprises.

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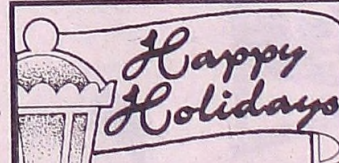


**At Christmas**

Packed up lots of wishes  
Wrapped 'em full of fun,  
For a healthy, happy Christmas  
With thanks to everyone.

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# *Our New Year's Resolution To You!*

As another year looms on the horizon, we renew our pledge of service to our community, and offer our best wishes for a happy and healthy 1998 to all.

**Romulus Community Schools  
Board of Education and Staff**

*"Your Children Are  
Our Greatest Concern"*



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## Celebrate Season Safely with "Great Pretenders" from AAA

Having a holiday gettogether for family or friends? You'll "score" by serving tasty, nonalcoholic drinks which have the appeal of true "All-Americans."

Recipes for holiday drinks - including "Red Wings Zinger," "Schuss Mountain," and "Sting-Like-A-Bee" Punch - can be found in AAA Michigan's "Great Pretenders Party Guide," which is now available free at all Auto Club branch offices Statewide.

The theme of this year's "Great Pretenders Party Guide" is "A Salute to Sports." The booklet features 15 recipes from Michigan residents who were selected as finalists in three regional "Zero-Proof Mix-Off" contests held in October, as well as recipes from Michigan sports figures.

"When we began publishing the "Great Pretenders Party Guide" 19 years ago, AAA Michigan's goal was to help make roads safer during the holidays, when people tend to drink and drive,"

said AAA Michigan Community Safety Services manager Jerry Basch. "That's still our goal today."

Although progress has been made, the battle is far from over, Basch emphasized. "In 1996, alcohol was a factor in crashes that took 555 lives in Michigan," he added.

This holiday season, AAA Michigan advises all party hosts to be "First A Friend, Then A Host" by following these recommendations.

- Serve a variety of nonalcoholic beverages like drinks from the "Great Pretenders Party Guide." Don't force alcoholic drinks on your guests.
- Put away the alcohol after a reasonable time, and make it known that coffee and desserts are available.
- Encourage car pooling. Give a small gift to designated drivers.
- Take the keys, call a cab, or insist that a guest who has had too much to drink sleep overnight at your home.

### Red Wings Zinger

By Dion Frischer, Ann Arbor  
(makes 1 generous serving)

1/2 cup boiling water

1 Celestial Seasonings Red Zinger  
tea bag or other herbal red tea

3 tablespoons sugar

2 tablespoons whipping cream,  
unwhipped

1/2 cup frozen strawberries

1/2 cup frozen raspberries (may come  
packaged with sugar added)

1 cup vanilla ice cream

For garnish: 1 red-skinned apple and  
1 red birthday candle

Add tea bag and sugar to boiling water and let steep while preparing other ingredients. Place whipping cream, strawberries, and raspberries into blender, but do not blend yet. Measure one cup vanilla ice cream and set it aside in measuring cup.

Prepare garnish by cutting 1/2-inch thick slices of the apple with the skin on. Carve apple slices into squares that will easily fit into serving glass. With tip of sharp paring knife, cut small slit in the apple skin. Push birthday candle all the way through the apple slice, starting at the skin side of apple and stopping when candle just emerges from cut side of the slice. Set prepared apple and candle aside.

Pour hot brewed tea into blender, and blend ingredients until berries are liquefied. Add ice cream and blend until smooth. Pour drink into a stemmed glass. Float apple slice with candle on top of drink, and light candle to serve drink. Before drinking, guests should blow out candle and remove apple slice by taking hold of candle and lifting out candle and apple.

### Schuss Mountain

By Barb Neumann, Grand Rapids  
(makes 1 serving)

8-oz. stemmed wine glass or stemmed  
mug

1/2 cup shaved or crushed ice

2 shot glasses Diet Coke

3 shot glasses liquid Swiss Chocolate  
coffee creamer (International Delight  
brand)

1/2 teaspoon instant coffee

1 package sugar substitute

whipped cream in an aerosol can  
freshly grated cinnamon

Chill glass. While chilling, mix instant coffee and sugar substitute thoroughly into creamer. Put ice into chilled glass; add Coke gently, to keep fizzing down. Then, gingerly pour in creamer mix. Spray whipped cream on top, creating mountain peak(s). Sprinkle on cinnamon, insert straws, and serve on snowy-white napkins.

### "Sting Like a Bee" Punch

By Pat Kreple, Middleville  
(makes 20 servings)

46 oz. apricot nectar

46 oz. pineapple juice

6 oz. frozen, concentrated orange juice

2 liters ginger ale

Combine first three ingredients, then add ginger ale. Gently add as much chipped ice as container will allow. □

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## Students Receive Gifts



Romulus High School National Honor Society members help children wrap and address Christmas gifts provided by the NHS students and members of the Romulus/Wayne Optimist Club.

The Wayne/Romulus Optimist Club recently provided hats, mittens, scarfs, and gloves for each child in grades K-2 at Cory Elementary School. This annual event, called "Warm a Child Program," has been a Christmas highlight for the Optimist Club since it first chose Cory School as its community partner. This year, the Club invited the Romulus High School National Honor Society to help its members procure gifts and organize the first "Optimist Gift Shop," from which Cory students selected gifts to give to their parents. The students then helped each child wrap and address the gifts they selected.

All of the gifts and outerwear were donated by Optimist Club members or National Honor Society members.

Cory Principal Phyllis Adkins greatly appreciated this holiday activity for her students. "It is a wonderful program where our young children select gifts for their parents and also receive outerwear for themselves. The staff and I want to thank the Optimist Club and the National Honor Society for all they do for our school.

"Thanks should also be given to Mae Jackson, a counselor at the High School, who helped coordinate this Christmas activity," Adkins added. □

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## Happy Holidays

### GOGGLES

*continued from page 1*

The Fatal Vision Goggles allow someone to experience that illusion without actually drinking.

The Romulus Police Department, which purchased a set for use by their crime-prevention personnel, intends to take these goggles to crime-prevention meetings, traffic-safety programs, senior-citizens meetings, and any event where they can educate motorists about how alcohol affects people.

The goggles will be available at Romulus City Hall through December 23. If you would like to try them, contact the Mayor's office (942-7571).

After December 23, the goggles will be back at the offices of the Romulus Police Department. □

### ANSWERS

*answers to puzzles from page 7*

#### LEAPFROG:

- 1) pigeons; 2) opines; 3) noise
- 4) LeRoy; 5) rely; 6) Iye
- 7) oodles; 8) doles; 9) sled
- 10) damsel; 11) meals; 12) lame
- 13) sphere; 14) spree; 15) sere
- 16) bereave; 17) beaver; 18) brave
- 19) nadir; 20) rind; 21) din
- 22) listen; 23) stein; 24) Ents
- 25) cattle; 26) cleat; 27) lace
- 28) hygiene; 29) eyeing; 30) genie

*"good health / prosperity"*

#### YOU'LL FIND IT IN "RENEWAL":

alee, anew, earl, earn, ewer, lane, lawn, lean, leer, near, real, reel, wale, wane, ware, warn, weal, wean, wear, weer, were, wren, laree, learn, newel, newer, ranee, renal, renew, leaner

## HELPING HAND THRIFT SHOP

### Is seeking contributions of:

small and family-size hams, turkeys, and pot roasts, as well as bacon, tuna, 1-lb. packages of ground beef, and staple items such as macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly, canned goods, etc.

### CASH DONATIONS ARE ESPECIALLY WELCOME!

Contributions may be dropped off on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Helping Hand Thrift Shop on Huron River Drive, west of 5-Points. If you have questions, please call 941-5323

Cash donations may also be mailed to:  
The Helping Hand • P.O. Box 74375 • Romulus, MI 48174

## ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

### REGULAR MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1997

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held at Barth Elementary School on Monday, November 24, 1997 was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by President Julie A. Oleszkowicz.

Roll call showed Member Howard Kesner absent. All Administrators were present. (Member Kesner entered the meeting at 7:35 P.M.)

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Julie A. Oleszkowicz.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, requested that the Agenda be amended as follows: Add "Communications and Expressions from the Public" under Item VI. Report of the Superintendent.

11/97/10 Moved by Gondek supported by Berlenn to approve the Agenda as amended. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

11/97/11 Moved by Berlenn supported by Gondek to approve the Minutes of November 10, 1997 as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

#### REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

##### Personnel Actions

None.

##### Retirement Resolutions – Smukal/Applebee

11/97/12 Moved by Lenossi supported by Berlenn to approve the retirement resolution, in recognition of years of service to the Romulus Community Schools, for James Applebee. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

11/97/13 Moved by Lenossi supported by Kesner to approve the retirement resolution, in recognition of years of service to the Romulus Community Schools, for Nancy Smukal. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

##### Bills for Payment

11/97/14 Moved by Webb supported by Berlenn to approve Bills for Payment as represented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

##### Curriculum Report – Industrial Tech, Melvin Kimbrough

Mr. Melvin Kimbrough was present to update the Board of Education on the goals and direction of Industrial Tech and responded to questions as posed by Members of the Board.

##### Report on Community High

Mr. Earl Cornett and Dr. Kate Jacobson were present to give a detailed report on the development of the Community Education Program.

##### Communications and Expressions from the Public

Members of the audience discussed their concerns as they pertain to the operation of the School District.

##### Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, shared the following items with Members of the Board of Education: 1) Myron Gray, First "Capitol Scholar"; 2) Technology Committee Minutes; 3) List of Scholarships; and 4) Things To Do for Post Secondary.

##### Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Mrs. Gondek asked how the (voice mail) system worked for calling in student absences at the High School.

Mr. Woods asked about the *Durant* decision and the impact it had on our district's finances.

Mr. Kesner requested that we establish a Technology Department.

Mr. Berlenn and Mrs. Lenossi talked about their informative tour with Bill Bower on the functioning of our heating and cooling system for the District.

##### Executive Session – Negotiations

Canceled.

##### ADJOURNMENT:

11/97/15 Moved by Gondek supported by Berlenn that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

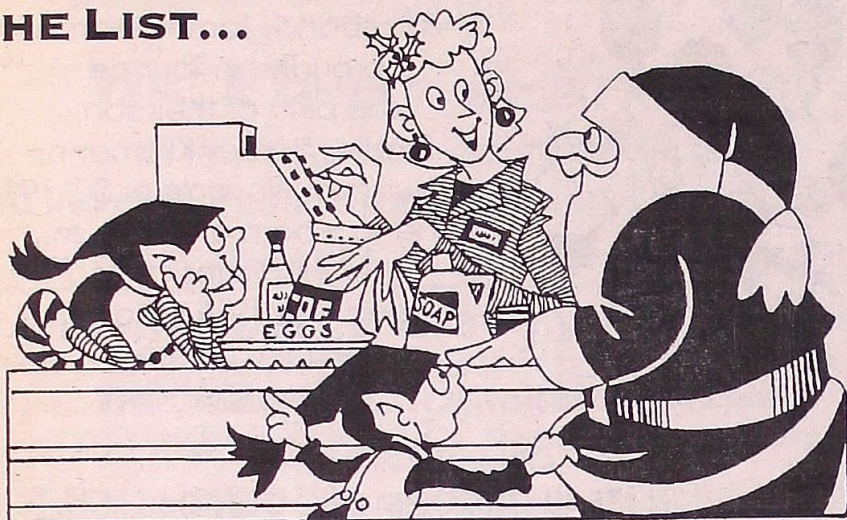
The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty M. Lenossi, Secretary  
Romulus Board of Education



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## Community Calendar

- **Romulus Rotary Seeks Old Eyeglasses** – The Romulus Rotary Club is asking people to donate their old prescription eyeglasses to help those who are less fortunate. A drop-off center will be made available, for your convenience, at the Romulus IGA on Goddard Road in the downtown area.
- **Goodfellows Donations** – Last-minute donations of cash; new, unwrapped toys; and/or nonperishable food items from individuals, businesses, community organizations, or other groups may be dropped off at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road) or Romulus Fire Station #4 (28777 Eureka Road) during normal business hours. For more information, please contact Jill Martin (941-8585).
- **Animal Shelter's Open House Features Pet Photos with Santa** – On Monday, December 22, bring your pets (and your kids) down to the Romulus Animal Shelter (located at 35255 Goddard Road) between 1 and 4 p.m. to have their pictures made with Santa. Cost is just \$2 per photo. Other activities are also planned. For more information, call 942-7591.
- **"More to Love" Hosts Holiday Fashion Show/Dance** – The "More to Love" Social Club for Big, Beautiful People and their admirers will host a holiday fashion show/dance on Saturday, December 27. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 if purchased in advance. For more information, please call 313-438-2720.
- **Firefighters Host New Year's Eve Party** – The Romulus Firefighters will host their annual Fund Raiser/Party at Romulus Progressive Hall (located at 11508 Ozga Road) on Wednesday, December 31, from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. Tickets – available for a donation of \$50 per couple/\$30 per single – can be obtained from Captain George Simko (721-3552) or Captain James Poet (942-7195). Donations cover dinner (served at 8 p.m.), a champagne toast, beer, setups (BYOB), party favors, door prizes, and music (provided by O'Brien).
- **New Year's Eve at the Detroit Repertory Theatre** – The Detroit Repertory Theatre invites you to spend New Year's Eve a different way! Plans call for the event to begin with champagne and hors d'oeuvres at 8 p.m.; continue with a revival of the all-time favorite Repertory comedy, *In the Sweet Bye and Bye*, at 9 p.m.; and conclude with a buffet supper prepared by the Theatre's resident chef, Dee Andrus. (Naturally, the menu will reflect the rural flavor of the play, with offerings such as "American Heartland" chicken breast, cheddar-cheese bread, carrot and raisin salad, and home-made apple pie.) Lighted, enclosed, attended parking is available at no charge. Tickets (\$50 per person) are limited, and must be purchased in advance by phone (call 313-866-1347 to use your MasterCard or VISA) or at the Repertory Box Office (13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit).
- **Recreation Department Organizes Trips for Youth** – The Romulus Recreation Department is planning a holiday skating trip for youths age five to 13 (Friday, January 2, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; cost of \$6 per person includes skate rental, but in-line skates are extra) and a trip for children age three and up to see a performance of *Aladdin* at the Northville Theatre (Saturday, January 3, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.; cost is \$6 per person; parents are encouraged to attend with their children). Buses leave and depart from the Recreation building, located at 36515 Bibbins. Registration deadlines are December 30 and January 2, respectively. Call 942-6852 for more information.

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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## Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, and Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(Note: For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 942-6852.)

### Happy Holidays!

Here's a heartfelt "thank you" for the many beautiful cards and holiday wishes that I've received from everyone kind enough to keep me in their thoughts. To all my friends throughout the community, I'd like to send my best wishes for a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

### Closed for the Holidays

Just a reminder that the Romulus Senior Center will be closed December 24, 25, and 31, as well as January 1, for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

### Tax Preparers Needed

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) is looking for volunteers interested in donating their time to prepare local senior citizens' 1997 tax returns. Each volunteer will receive free training and necessary supplies – and, in return, will be asked to donate four hours of his/her time once a week during the upcoming tax season to prepare returns at the Romulus Senior Center. For more information about this program, call 942-6852.

### Snow-removal Hints

Mr. J. A. Toth will be on hand at the Romulus Senior Center at 1 p.m. on Monday, December 22, to give a 10-minute talk/demonstration on how to shovel snow but still minimize back injuries and undue strain on your heart. Be sure to stop by and learn his secrets!

### Walking Club

Local seniors are invited to meet at the Center every Wednesday at 9 a.m. to ride the "senior van" over to Wayne County Community College's Haggerty Road campus for some safe, indoor walking (at your own pace) during the winter months. There is no charge to participate in this program.

### Free Blood-pressure Readings

GranCare Home Health invites local seniors to stop in at the Romulus Senior Center at 1 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month for a free blood-pressure check and a chance to "ask the nurse" questions regarding medications, preventive health alternatives, disease processes, etc. (Next date: January 5.)



Decorations from the Romulus Tower's "mittentree" will be given to those in need.

### Weekly Programs

The Romulus Senior Center has a full schedule of weekly programs for senior citizens' enjoyment. Come in on your own or bring a friend for ceramics (Mondays at 1 and 6 p.m.); Club #1 meetings (Tuesdays at 11 a.m.); euchre (Tuesdays at 1 p.m.); bingo (Wednesdays at 1 p.m.); and pinochle (Thursdays at 1 p.m.).

### Hot Lunch

For just \$1.50, Romulus seniors (age 60 and over) can enjoy a hot lunch at the Center any weekday at 11:30 a.m. Call the Romulus Senior Center at least 24 hours in advance to make a reservation.

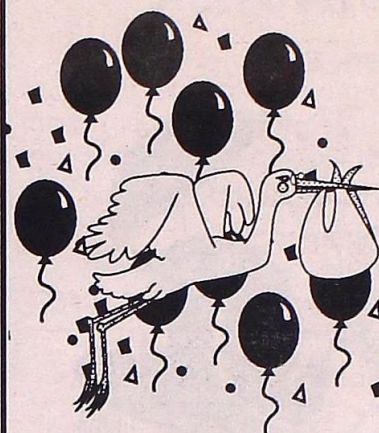
Home delivery of hot meals is also available for qualified individuals. For more information about "Meals on Wheels," call 1-800-851-1454.

### Volunteers Wanted

The Wayne County Office of Nutrition Services is seeking volunteers to deliver hot meals to home-bound seniors in Romulus. All that is needed is a willing heart, transportation, and 30 to 60 minutes, one to five mornings per week. Volunteers receive a 21-cents-per-mile reimbursement. For more information, call Fran Ryder at 326-4441.

### Chore Services for Seniors

The Wayne Metropolitan Community Services Agency is now offering a chore service for senior citizens. Since the program is funded, in part, by the Senior Alliance, a donation is requested for services received. For more information, please call 313-843-2550. □



Dr. Jacquelyn Plateau-Kliemann and husband, James Kliemann, proudly announce the birth of their son, Bradley James Kliemann, on Thursday, November 20, 1997. He was born at 4:18 p.m., weighed 5 lbs., 9 oz., and was 19 1/4 in. long. He joins his sister, Melissa Kliemann.

### Other News from FLATEAU CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

Chiropractic Assistant, Debbie Wiley and husband, Greg Wiley, are the proud parents of twin boys, Nicholas and Zachary Wiley, born November 26, 1997.

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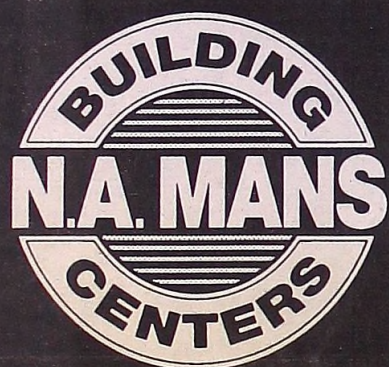
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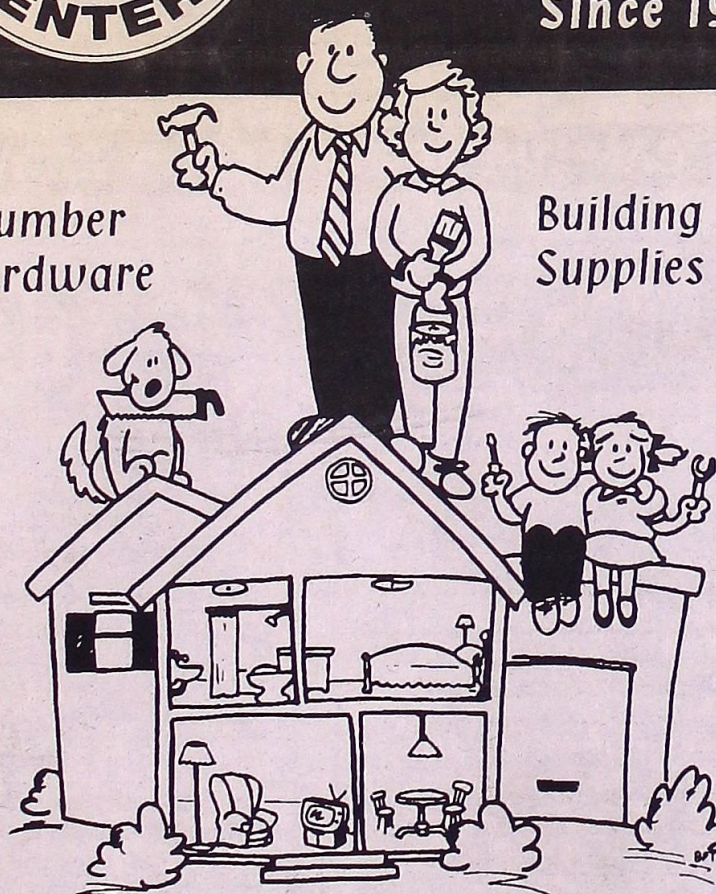
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## Obituaries

### Darwin Wessels

Darwin Wessels of Romulus, Michigan, died on Thursday, December 11, 1997. He was 80 years old.

The McCloud Steel retiree and former Marko's Feed Store employee was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, on July 31, 1917. He and his wife, Sabina T. (Kowalski) Wessels, were married on February 9, 1941.

Darwin is survived by his wife; three sons, Darwin C. (Belleville, MI), Duane E. (Wyandotte, MI), and Dennis D.

Wessels (Garden City, MI); one brother, Glenn Wessels (Lincoln Park, MI); and one grandson, Dennis F. Wessels.

Funeral services were held on Monday, December 15, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus, MI), with Father Richard Thomason officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home. Memorial tributes may be made to any charitable organization. □

### David D. Wilkerson

David D. Wilkerson of Romulus, Michigan, died on Monday, December 15, 1997. He was 38 years old.

The native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on October 23, 1959. He and his wife, Laura Lynn Singleton, were married on August 8, 1992.

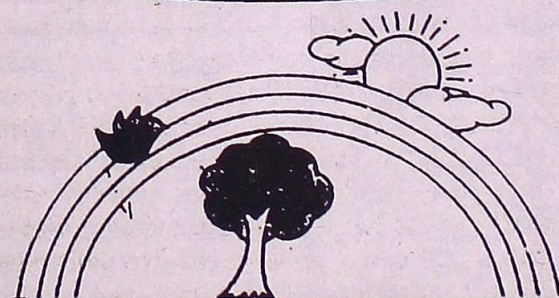
Surviving David are his wife; his parents, Donald E. and Lorraine T. (Schall) Wilkerson (New Port, FL); two sons, Ryan and Sean Wilkerson (Romulus, MI); one stepson, Joshua Durden (Romulus, MI); one daughter, Ashley

Head (Perryman, MD); one brother, Mark A. Wilkerson (Austin, TX); and two sisters, Mrs. Jerry (Nancy L.) Woods (Coker, AL) and Mrs. Michael (Deborah A.) Smith (Taylor, MI).

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, December 19, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor Wesley Rowe (Calvary Bible Church, Ypsilanti, MI) officiating. Interment will be at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Memorial tributes may be made to the family. □

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